

Appl. No. 10/809,561
Amdt. Dated December 20, 2006
Reply to an Office Action dated 09/20/06

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Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A communication device for communicating with an external device, comprising:

a wireless communication unit ~~which communicates with an external device;~~

means for conducting at least two inquiries for searching ~~an external devices~~ surrounding the communication device, the at least two inquiries being transmitted through the wireless communication unit both for a first time and for a second time;

means for receiving responses to each inquiry, each a response including information from one or more of the ~~an external devices~~ corresponding to the searching;

means for detecting one of the external devices as a ~~a communication connection object coming out of the external device that did not provide a response within the first time, and did provide a response within the second time~~ in accordance with a difference between the received responses; and

means for establishing a communication connection exclusively with the ~~communication detected~~ connection object ~~detected by the detecting means.~~

2. (Currently Amended) A communication device according to claim 19, wherein the first period of time is variable.

3. (Currently Amended) A communication device according to claim 2, wherein the first period of time is until the a total number of external devices ~~which that have~~ provided a response does not change within a given time period.

4. (Currently Amended) A communication device according to claim 19, wherein the second period of time is variable.

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5. (Currently Amended) A communication device according to claim 4, wherein the second period of time is until the receiving means receives a response from an external device that the receiving means did not receive a response provided for the first period of time.

6. (Currently Amended) A communication device according to claim 4, wherein the second period of time is until the ~~a~~ total number of external devices which have providedproviding a response does not change within a given time period.

7. (Currently Amended) A communication device according to claim 19[[1]], wherein each of the responses includes a device information indicating at least one attribute of an external device of the external devices providing the response.

8. (Currently Amended) A communication device according to claim 7, further comprising:

means for storing attribute information showing the attribute ~~which of the~~ extended device to be detected as the communication connection object ~~should comprise~~.

9. (Currently Amended) A communication device according to claim 8, wherein the detecting means comprises:

means for extracting a device information of the external device from that the receiving means did not receive the device information for the first period of time, and that the receiving means did receive the device information for the ~~first~~ second period of time coincides with the attribute shown by the attribute information stored in the storing means; and

means for selecting the external device extracted by the extracting means as the communication connection object.

10. (Currently Amended) A communication device according to claim 19[[1]], further comprising:

means for displaying the external devices detected by the detecting means when the external devices detected are two or more but within a predetermined number; and

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means for inputting information indicating one of the external devices selected as a communication connection object,

wherein the establishing means establishes the communication connection with the external device indicated by the information from the inputting means.

11. (Currently Amended) A communication device according to claim 19[[1]], further comprising:

means for informing that searching in the first period of time is complete; and

means for inputting instruction which requests the ~~searching~~ conducting means to search an external device for the second period of time.

12. (Original) A communication device according to claim 11, wherein the inputting means comprises an audio input device for input of the instruction.

13. (Original) A communication device according to claim 12, wherein the informing means comprises a speaker.

14-15. (Cancelled).

16. (Currently Amended) A method for detecting a communication device as communication connection object, ~~comprising the steps of:~~

setting a first communicating device in a ~~first condition~~ Disabled state in which the first communication device does not communicate for a first period of time, and in an Enabled state ~~second condition~~ in which the first communication device does communicate for a second period of time;

~~searching for a communication devices~~ which surrounds a second communication device and ~~is are~~ able to communicate the second communication device ~~both for~~ during either the first period of time ~~or and for~~ the second period of time; and

~~detecting one of the first communicating devices as the first communication~~ coming out of the communicating device that did not communicate in the first period of time, and that was able to communicate ~~in the second~~ period of time.

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17. (Currently Amended) A method for establishing a radio connection between communication devices, comprising ~~the steps of:~~

- setting a first communication device in a first condition in which the first communication device does not respond to an inquiry;
- outputting a first inquiry from a second communication device ~~for a predetermined time~~ so as to receive a response from a communication device surrounding the second communication device;
- setting the first communication device in a second condition in which the first communication device responds to an inquiry;
- outputting a second inquiry from the second communication device ~~for a predetermined time~~ so as to receive a response from at least a communication device surrounding the second communication device;
- detecting one of the ~~first~~ communication devices ~~coming out of~~ as the first communication device that did not respond to the first inquiry and did respond to the second inquiry; and
- establishing an exclusive communicating connection between the first communication device and the second communication device.

18. (Cancelled).

19. (New) A communication device according to claim 1, wherein the means for conducting at least two inquiries including conducting a first inquiry and a second inquiry, and the detecting means detects the one of the external devices being an external device that did not provide a response with a first period of time corresponding to the first inquiry, and did provide a response within a second period of time corresponding to the second inquiry as the exclusive connection object.

20. (New) A communication device according to claim 1, wherein the means for conducting at least two inquiries comprises a device information acquisition unit.

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21. (New) A method according to claim 17, wherein the setting of the first communication device in the second condition and outputting of the second inquiry occurs before the setting of the first communication device in the first condition and the outputting of the first inquiry.